PATENT Customer Number 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 04350.0012-00000

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

SEP 1 8 2001 8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of:

Richard A. ESSER et al.) Group Art Unit: 3727

Serial No.: 09/689,615) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: October 13, 2000

For: RAPID DEPLOYMENT HAZMAT

CONTAINMENT DEVICE

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply to the Office Action dated June 18, 2001. The items checked below are attached:

APPENDIX TO AMENDMENT DATED SEPTEMBER 18, 2001

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Dated: September 18, 2001

Parmanand K. Sharma

Reg. No. 43,916

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT, & DUNNER, L. L. P. 1300 I STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005 202-408-4000

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231	VEL 2001 NTER R37
Sir	8 U

AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action dated June 18, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 10-12 and 14-19, amend claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 13 and 20, and add new claim 21 as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A rapid deploy containment device adapted to receive and retain hazardous waste, the containment device being moveable between an erect open configuration and a collapsed compact configuration, the containment device in the open configuration having a receptacle capable of receiving hazardous waste, the containment device comprising:

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